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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

THE BRITISH AT ADEN IN DANGER

Turkish and Arab Forces Join in Attacks Against English Troops, Losses of the Latter Being Heavy

Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 27.—Twenty thousand British troops, defending Aden, Arabia, are in a dangerous position from attacks by combined Arab and Turkish forces, according to the Cologne Volks Zeitung today.

This paper reported that the English had lost 15,000 in killed and 20,000 in wounded there since the combat began.

A wounded British major was given as authority for the statement that the Arab sheikhs had joined the Turkish forces, and that nearly 100,000 square miles of Arabia formerly controlled by the British had been lost to them.

The Arabians were said to be using British arms against the British forces.

Aden is a strongly fortified town, known as the "Gibraltar of the East." Because of its position with reference to the Suez canal, it is a very important trading center. It has a commodious bay and is the chief trading port of Arabia.

Berlin reported several weeks ago that the Turks had driven the British upon Aden, and were preparing to attack the city, but this was denied by the British.

FLOODS AGAIN HIT CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles, Jan. 27.—Floods hit southern California with renewed force today.

Following an all-night downpour, the waters which did millions of dollars of damage a week ago, and exacted a toll of several lives, again became dangerous.

Rain is predicted for the next 36 hours. Along the coast it is accompanied by a stiff gale, which drives it in almost horizontal sheets. Many of the Los Angeles city streets are rivers of water.

Railroads, half repaired after the last storm, went to pieces again this morning. Towns along the Southern Pacific coast line were isolated and service to San Bernardino and other valley cities ceased. The Santa Fe to San Diego, almost ready for resumption of regular schedules, was broken once more.

Telegraph and telephone lines suffered. All wires to San Diego went down when the Mission river overflowed its banks and toppled the temporary poles there.

San Diego is as badly isolated as it was during the progress of last week's storm.

Low lands between Los Angeles and the beaches were inundated. Water is around the porch steps of cottages in some parts of Compton. This is higher than any floods rose during the last disturbance.

Santa Monica reported unusually high tides, with a gale backing up water in the Venice canals. Los Cerritos slough, between Los Angeles and Long Beach, is rapidly filling, and the Pacific Electric bridge is endangered. The Santa Ana river is as high as ever and growing, demolishing temporary bridges.

E. F. Heath made a trip to Medford today.

LIBRARY BANDITS GET RICH HAUL FROM CHICAGO BANK

Chicago, Jan. 27.—Four boy bandits today held up the cashier and 30 other persons, including Jake Stahl, former baseball player and magnate, in the Washington Park National bank and escaped with between \$12,000 and \$13,000 in cash.

Stahl is vice-president of the bank. The bandits, none of them appeared more than 20 years old, drove up to the bank in an automobile, warned several customers to stand back, ordered employer to hold up their hands and directed the teller and cashier to open the safe.

Stahl was in his office at the time, and the lads forced him to get into line with hands up, along with the employees and customers.

"I was taking no chances," said Stahl afterward. "It was a regular wild and woolly hold-up."

Municipal Judge Frye, a customer in the institution, willingly obeyed the bandits' commands to throw up his hands. When they had lined up the entire crowd, they grabbed the loot and ran out after warning those inside to remain quiet while they made for the auto and fled. The teller chased them in another machine, but soon lost them in the maze of traffic.

The boys had donned masks as their car, without a license number, rolled up to the bank, which is located in one of the most populous sections of the south side. The institution is known as "Jake Stahl's bank."

HUMPHREY SCORES MEXICAN POLICY

Washington, Jan. 27.—In one of the most violent attacks upon the administration Mexican policy ever heard in congress, Congressman Humphrey of Washington today pictured President Wilson as a "scholar, dreamer and theorist," and former Secretary Bryan as "the great preacher of Chautauqua peace at almost any cash price."

"Our policy in Mexico," he said, "has earned us the contempt of the world, and has influenced the attitude of European belligerents toward us. The president's policy is characterized by weakness, uncertainty, vacillation and an uncontrollable desire to intermeddle. He has not the courage to go into Mexico, nor to stay out. We make a tremendous bluster about killing Americans upon the high seas and fill the air with the tumult of many typewriters, but we have looked on, with our equanimity undisturbed, while hundreds have been purposely and foully murdered in Mexico."

"If we are 'too proud to fight,' we should be too proud to quarrel. I would not choose between murders, but I would practise pitiless publicity as well as preach it."

KAISER CELEBRATES 57TH BIRTHDAY

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Berlin, Jan. 27.—Emperor Wilhelm celebrated his 57th birthday today afield with his troops. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg left last night to join him.

At the emperor's request elaborate celebrations, customary in the past, were not duplicated. Flags were hung out, but parades and demonstrations were lacking. In Berlin entertainments were given for the benefit of the Red Cross and for the children of soldiers.

The kaiser has recovered from his recent illness and now spends most of the daylight hours afield.

SUGAR FACTORY SURE TO COME SAYS MR. NIBLEY

Doubt Over Obtaining Seed for Planting This Season Has Been Dispelled, and the Contract for the Erection of the Buildings Will Be Let at Once, Though Announcement of Definite Location Has Not Yet Been Made

Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 27, 1916.
F. S. Bramwell, Grants Pass, Oregon.
Father authorizes me to wire you that everything is O. K. and we have asked for bids on our factory. You may phone Storey at Medford.
ALEX NIBLEY.

The receipt this morning of the above telegram from Alex Nibley to Frank S. Bramwell, field superintendent for the Oregon-Utah Sugar company, sets at rest any disquieting rumors that may have disturbed the public mind over the successful outcome of the campaign for the beet sugar factory. Recently word had come that some difficulty was being experienced in the obtaining of seed for the new factory, though it was stated from Salt Lake City that the seed problem was in way of solution. The telegram sent by Mr. Nibley brings the definite assurance that all fears upon this phase of the matter can now be allayed, and that the contract for the factory is to be let at once. Coming as it does with the authority of Bishop C. W. Nibley, it leaves absolutely no room for a doubt in the mind of anyone, and while it does not state the definite location of the factory, that will undoubtedly come within the course of the next points.

NO OCCASION FOR ALARM IN SEIZURE OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS BY MEXICANS

Washington, Jan. 27.—Press reports of the Mexican seizure of two American soldiers near Brownsville yesterday, with the drowning of others while swimming in the Rio Grande, gave occasion for no alarm in official circles today, according to authorities. It was suggested, though, that the incident might lead to a fresh outbreak of anti-Mexican and anti-administration discussion in congress.

Officials declared that the American soldiers had no business in Mexico, and that the Mexican authorities were within their rights if they arrested them for crossing the boundary.

This is not the first incident of the kind. Once a dozen soldiers crossed near El Paso, and the Juarez authorities arrested them, but released them as soon as they ascertained that the crossing was accidental.

If civilians and not Carranzista soldiers captured the two, General Funston probably will ask the Carranza commander for assurances of their safety and hold the Carranzistas responsible for their safe keeping. If the Americans crossed the river in attempting to rescue their comrades, it is expected the Carranza commander will protest to General Funston and that then an exchange of apologies will close the incident.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Approval of the arrests of American army lieutenants involved in the crossing of the Rio Grande yesterday was voiced today by the war department. The tragic incident that ended in the drowning of four soldiers, after two had been captured on the Mexican

side, is likely to go before a court martial.

The seriousness of the soldiers' action was evidenced by the fact that the administration gave quick assurance to the Carranzista authorities that the leaders of the crossing party had been promptly arrested. From a staff officer came the statement that it was "almost insane" for the soldiers to violate the department's iron-clad rule against crossing the American boundary under any circumstances.

The government meantime expects that the de facto government will protect the two soldiers seized on the Mexican side. Brownsville, Texas, Jan. 27.—Officials here sought today to guard against open clashes between American and Mexican troops as a result of the drowning of Sergeant Owen Clements, Corporal Michael King, Privates Harry Rhode and Charles Wittenbest as they were trying to rescue Privates Wm. Wheeler and Blago Pedersen, whom the Mexicans at Progreso captured yesterday afternoon. The fate of Wheeler and Pedersen is unknown. But Carranzista authorities, upon request of American military men, are seeking to rescue the pair. The officials claimed at first that there was no patrol of Carranzista soldiers in that neighborhood, but it is claimed definitely here that the captors were in the uniform of the de facto government.

Meantime, General Funston maintains that the American soldiers were at fault for swimming in the Rio Grande beyond the American line.

(Continued on page 2)

MORE RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION IS EUGENE REPORT

Eugene, Jan. 27.—Construction men were jubilant today over the announcement of H. P. Hoey that 260 miles of railroad is to be constructed between Coos Bay and Eureka, Cal., connecting the Willamette Pacific, now nearing completion, and the Western Pacific, which has Eureka as its northern terminus.

To date the Willamette Pacific, from Eugene to Coos Bay, has cost \$9,000, Hoey said.

A road from Coos Bay to Eureka, together with the proposed line from Mapleton to Tillamook, would provide a coast route between Portland and San Francisco.

URGE EMBARGO ON MUNITIONS SHIPMENTS

Washington, Jan. 27.—An embargo upon munitions shipments was urged today by Senators Hitchcock, Kenyon, Clapp and LaFollette. Senator Kenyon submitted a petition to the senate bearing more than 1,000,000 names, asking such an action. Senator Works charged that but for America's own activities in the munitions line the Lusitania incident would have been averted.

CONVICT LABOR TO COST STATE LESS

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Sacramento, Jan. 27.—That the cost to the state of maintaining convict road laborers will be reduced from \$1.31 per day to \$1 a day for each convict is the opinion today of Highway Engineer Fletcher. The cost has been rather high because the men worked in the rain and it was necessary to provide them with special clothing. But even at the \$1.31 rate the venture is considered a success from a financial viewpoint because the average wage is \$2.25 a day. The convicts who have been clearing and grading state highways in Mendocino county are doing the work as efficiently as paid labor, it is reported. From the viewpoint of the moral uplift of the convicts, the plan has also been a success, five of the workers having been paroled. Only nine of the 115 convicts who were sent to the road camp failed to make good. Five were agitators and four attempted to escape. These were sent back to prison.

STUNTS FOR SMOKER AT MEDFORD TONIGHT

Medford, Jan. 27.—The clothing of five boys will be thrown into the ring and the first one dressed will receive a prize. This is one of the events scheduled for the smoker of the Seventh company, Coast artillery, tonight. A boxing and wrestling card is also on the program.

HOOD TAKES ELOPING SPOUSE BACK HOME

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Salt Lake City, Jan. 27.—V. L. Hoods, San Diego hotelman, and his wife, who eloped here with Raymond Dodds, negro, are on their way home today. Though Mrs. Hoods' statements to the police indicated she came with Dodds because of love for him, Hood insists there was a conspiracy, and is reconciled with his wife.

Hood and Dodds conferred for five hours in the mayor's office last night. Dodds is held on an open charge, and federal officials have not yet completed their investigation to determine whether he is subject to prosecution under the Mann white slave law.

WILSON NOT TOO PROUD TO FIGHT

President Tells Clergymen in Speech at New York That He Is Always Ready to Accept a Challenge to Battle

New York, Jan. 27.—President Wilson indicated plainly today he is no longer "too proud to fight."

Speaking before 2,000 clergymen of many creeds, he declared "I always accept, perhaps by some impulse of my native blood, the challenge to a fight."

Moreover, he added that with him it was not a "case of a knock down and drag out, but of putting up the best reason why your own side should survive."

In announcing his doctrine concerning peace and belligerency, the president obviously attempted to eliminate from further discussion the "too proud" phrase voiced in his Indianapolis speech last year—a phrase which resulted in greater criticism here and abroad than any other utterance he has made.

"I hope I do not traduce my antagonists," he went on. "I hope I fight them with the purpose and intention of converting them. I wish that the best argument and the right purpose shall prevail."

"Virgil says somewhere: The child beats its nurse and cries for the moon; the old man sips gruel humbly and thanks God that nobody beats him."

"I have not yet quite reached the point of humility, and I always accept, perhaps from some impulse of my native blood, the challenge to a fight. It is not a case of knock down and drag out, but of putting the best reason why your own side should survive. These franknesses of controversy; these knightly equalities of conditions in the fight, are necessary conditions precedent to peace."

UNION IRON WORKS TO ENLARGE PLANT

San Francisco, Jan. 27.—The Union Iron works, which has just purchased the shipbuilding plant of the United Engineering works for \$1,000,000, will spend \$300,000 more improving the place, according to announcement today by President J. A. McGregor. The plant will be modernized in every way. Machinery of the latest type will cost \$50,000, and three new slips will be built.

McGregor declares that the business already waiting for the Union Iron works will keep the new plant going to capacity for an indefinite period, and he even predicted that it would not be long before even these new facilities for his company would be outgrown.

"The demand for ships is almost beyond comprehension," said McGregor, "and price is no object just now. I have been compelled recently to stop negotiations because we had not the facilities to fill the orders that poured in."

MILWAUKEE ROAD HAS DECLARED DIVIDEND

(By United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Jan. 27.—The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad directors today declared a semi-annual dividend of 2 1/4 per cent on the common stock—an increase of half per cent over the last dividend. At the same time they declared a semi-annual dividend of 3 1/4 per cent on the preferred stock.